

72 *The Excellency, Necessity,*

fore, an Old Man has one foot in the grave,
and what saith the voice from Heaven?
Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord,
Rev. 14. 13. A good Old Man then is up-
on the Threshold of Heaven: well may
he run with Patience, who is almost with-
in reach of the Prize.

Consider what I say, and the Lord give
us understanding in all things.

Now unto the King Eternal, Immortal,
Invisible, the Only-wise God be Ho-
nour, and Glory for ever and ever,
Amen.

FINIS.



THE
REMONSTRANCE,
 OR
MANIFEST

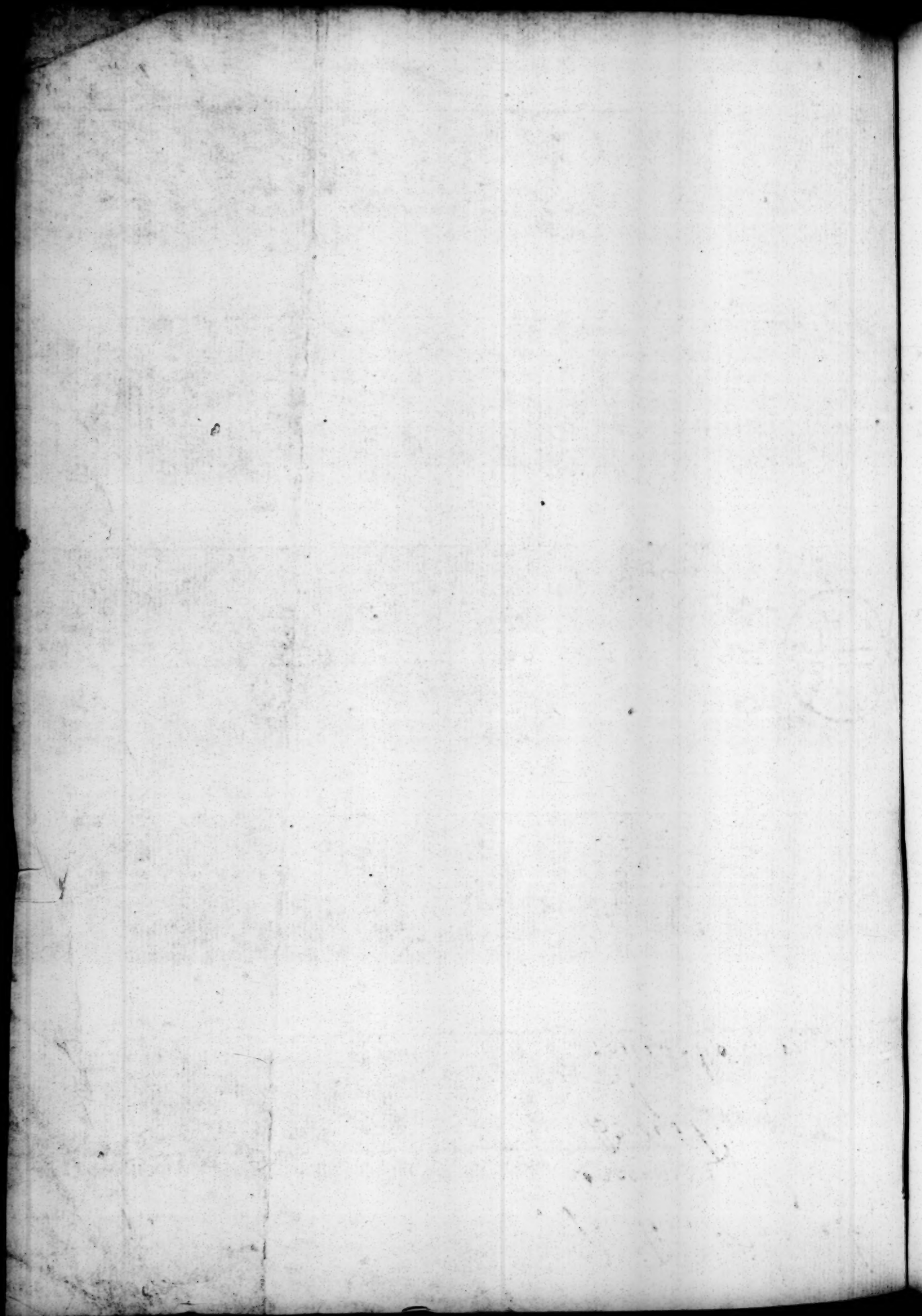
OF
 S^r *THOMAS BENDISH*, Baronet,
 Sent Ambassador from King *CHARLES* of
 Blessed Memory, to the *Grand Seignior* in
CONSTANTINOPLE,
 Anno, 1647.

*To Inform the World, and to Remember the Governour and
 Company of Merchants trading into the Levant Seas, of
 the Services he hath done them, and this Nation, there;
 which by their carriage towards him, many of them seem
 to have forgotten.*

H Ad not the manifold disobligations, which some of
 the said Company, in the name of the whole, have
 laid upon me (since it pleased his Majesty to re-call
 me from that Negotiation) cast some umbrage upon
 my name and reputation in the eye of the World
 (which will not easily believe such unkindnesses could come unprovoked on my part) I could have easily sat down in silence, content
 with the Conscience of having discharged my Duty therein, as be-
 came the honour of a Gentleman, and have imputed their ingrati-
 tude and forgetfulness to the common chance that attends upon all
 humane affairs, and especially upon those, that have to do with men,
 whose principles direct them to no higher end then their own profit
 and advantage.

But since, to absolve themselves from that just satisfaction they
 A ought

Quint Man
deceitful
Benny
Lanachon in



To the Kings Most Excellent Maiesty

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The humble Petition of S^r Thomas Bendysh Baronet
Sheweth

That your Petit. was imprisoned in the Tower of London
22 months for serving his Maiesty your father of blessed memory
in which time his estate was sequestred & suffered much before it could
be released

That your Petit. sent 3000^l. ster^{ts} to his Ma^{tie}. in Newcastle
in the time of his restraint there, which was all out of his owne Purs

To the Hon. the Lords of the Council

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

in relation to the petition of the Committee of the Board of Trade
for a charter for the proposed canal from the City of New York
to the Hudson River.

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst.

Yours
J. R.



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ought in honour to make me, they have found out so ignoble a way, as not onely to prosecute me with Suits in Chancery, upon feigned pretences of my being their Debtor, but to load me also with dishonour and reproach, and to stigmatize my name with scandals, and crimes of a most horrid and odious nature; I find my self so farr indebted to the honour of my Family, as not to suffer the yet unspotted Reputation thereof (transmitted to me by my Ancestors) to be lost in me for want of a just and necessary Vindication.

And though I am not apt to glory in mine own actions (holding it for a rule, who boasts his own good deeds, does in the very act thereof forfeit his reward) yet, if in wiping off that Dirt which hath been thrown upon me, I am forced to recount my Services, with those just advantages they have merited (from those at least who have reaped the benefit of them) I hope the candid and ingenious Reader will make a fair Interpretation thereof, by distinguishing so necessary a Justification, from a vain and empty Boasting.

What the advantage and benefit of the *Turkie* Trade hath heretofore been, and now again is (not onely to this Nation in general, but more particularly to the *Levant* Company) is not unknown to any who have considered how many thousand Woollen Cloths (the Staple Manufacture of this Kingdom) are yearly exported from hence thither, and what vast returns thereof are made from thence in Raw Silk, Cotton Wools, Cotton Yarn, Grogerin Yarn, and other like Commodities, upon the conversion of which into Manufacture, so many thousands of his Majesties Subjects are daily set on work, and thereby enabled to maintain themselves and families. But in how low and unsettled a Condition I found this Trade at my arrival in *Constantinople*, and how flourishing I left it, at the end of my well-neer fourteen years Negotiation, since some of the said Company have so willingly, and unworthily forgotten, I must crave leave to put them in mind thereof, that by comparing the difference, they may be convinced (if it be possible) of their own ingratitude, and the World inform'd of their injustice towards me. Wherein yet I would be understood, not to reflect upon all the Members of this Society, knowing many of them to be Persons of much honour and worthiness, and such as wholly dislike the proceedings of the rest; I call therefore to those others to remember;

That some time before my arrival, the Fence and Security of all their priviledges (founded upon former *Treaties* and *Capitulations* between

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between the Crown of *England* and the *Grand Seignior*) had been thrown down and trodden under foot: And that the report of that unnatural Fire which was then burning in *England* (being kindled by Rebels against their natural Prince) had rendred the *English*, without distinction, odious, and contemptible, even in all parts of the World where they resided, especially in *Constantinople*; of which the *Vizier*; (the great *Minister*, and sole *Governour* of the Empire) taking advantage, and looking upon the *English* Nation, as men with whom no faith was to be kept, willingly suffered all manner of depredations to be done unto the Residers there.

And hence it was, that at my arrival, I found the Factory in so great disorder, and confusion, as that their goods and merchandize were, by *Turkish* violence, frequently torn from them by the *Vizier* himself, and other Officers, not onely out of their Ships, and Vessels, but out of their very Houses too, without price, or hope of payment; their persons affronted, reviled, yea, and kick'd in the very streets, their Mariners beaten aboard their Ships, and nothing wanting to make them perfectly miserable, but captivity it self; and that which aggravated all these calamities, was, that it admitted of no redress or cure, but by the same hand that was the cause of all their grievances, even the *Vizier* himself.

To him therefore (after advice, and counsell with the Factory, though hopeles of any good success) I made my application, endeavouring by all fair means (for there was no other then to be offer'd at) to make him sensible of the wrongs done, and to obtain justice, and satisfaction, for the goods taken away, as aforesaid.

Now, so far was he from granting my desire (though making many fair promises, and protestations, at the first) that in fine, I receiv'd no other Answer, then a flat and peremptory Denyal, and, instead of restitution, a demand of our Ships (being seven in number) to serve the *Grand Seignior* against the *Venetians*; and to shew that he was in good earnest, command was then immediately given by him to the Captain *Bassa*, to force them into the said service the next morning; most of them being then laden, and ready for departure.

This being the state of affairs in this juncture of time, I shall desire the Company (if at least they have any sense of honour, or any gratefull remembrance of the course I took then, with the desperate hazard of my life, and all that was dear to me, to extricate them

them out of this labyrinth) to look back, and call to mind the great danger which hung over their Factors heads, and their own estates, being then deprived both of Ships to supply their Trade, and of goods to trade with; and to consider what they then, or their Factors were able to have done, save to lament their losses, and stand as so many Ciphers to make the account of their miseries the greater? had not the providence of God directed me to a course no less desperate than their condition, and made me therein successfull.

The *Vizier*, as much incensed as the haughtiness and avarice of an enraged *Barbarian* could make him, and therefore not at all to be dealt with; The *Grand Seignior* himself inaccessible, but by, and through his means: In this extremity of their condition, what was now to be done, but to make my publick Appeal unto the *Gr. Seignior* with fire upon our Ships? (a course as hazardous, as it was rare and unusual) But the honour of the King my Master, under whose Commission I was, the interest of the *English* Nation, and, in particular, of the *Turkie Company*, together with mine own Reputation lying at stake, I made no difficulty to break through all considerations of danger, and to make my Appeal against the *Vizier*, in the form before mentioned.

Which (to let pass the passages in the managery thereof, lest I should be thought to glory in mine own actions) took its desired effect, and was the means of restoring the Factory, in less then two days, to the full height of their Privileges, honour, and estate, and that in a greater splendour then ever they formerly enjoy'd them; for thereupon, the Ships were released from the *Grand Seignior's* service, the Customs which, before my time, had been raised from three to six *per Cent.* were reduced again to three; ten thousand Dollers were brought in ready mony into the Ships, towards the satisfaction of those goods the *Vizier* had taken away, and security given for what remain'd unpaid; debts, old and desperate, due to the Company from *Jews* and others, before my time, were by the power of the *Vizier* (who then saw himself endangered by the Appeal) forced to be satisfied, and all possible assurance given, that we should be civilly treated in the future, and that the Capitulations should be inviolably preserv'd: And thus far they have been as good as their words, that from the day of their promise to the time I left *Constantinople*, they never attempted to take by force any goods whatever, either from our Ships, or Merchants houses, which before was usual.

And

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And however the memory of this eminent Service (pardon the expression) comes to be obliterated, yet, as it pleased his late Majesty, of ever blessed memory, to own it in a Letter to me from *the Isle of Wight*, and, in his royal sense of my Service therein, to honour that action with the title of a *Discreet and stout behaviour*; so time was, when this very Company (who now blast my Reputation with so much violence, and so little cause) were not backward to acknowledge it in a Letter, sent to their Factory in *Constantinople*.

Wherein their words were, That, *they were onely sorry that their present condition was such, as made them unable to remunerate my care according to my merit, which yet they hoped they might in time be in a capacity to do.* Which, how far they have been mindfull of, I leave to the World to judge, when I shall have inform'd them, that to blot out the memory of this obligation (which they have not honour enough to recompense) they have unjustly loaded me with disgrace, and, in their malicious Bills, exhibited against me in the *Chancery*, have taxed me on Record, with breach of Trust, Confederacy against them, and Conversion of their monies to my own use, though they know themselves not able to make good one particle of that Charge, or that I ever touch'd one penny of their money.

But this is not the only Service for which they have made me recompence in this coin; they may please to call to mind, that I (not satisfy'd in having restored them by the means aforesaid, to their old Privileges, and therewith to their Estates, their Ships & Trade) still went on obtaining new ones, and strengthening the old. To which end, after the horrid murder committed upon his late Majesty (that I might not in the least measure seem to comply with those execrable Usurpers) I renew'd the Capitulations in the name of his present Majesty King *Charles the second*, to the no small danger of my life the second time, being for it accused in *England* of high Treason against the then pretended State; and to those renewed Capitulations, I procured the *Grand Seignior's* own hand (called the *Hatsheriff*) an honour and security never granted before, nor since, to any *Christian* Emperor, King, or State whatever in way of Trade; and in the renewing of them, I gain'd an addition of such Privileges, as might any ways advantage the Trade, or secure the Factories; and in particular, several clauses against the Customers of *Aleppo*, for taking

taking Customs upon moneys, and raw Silk; the abolishing of which exaction, hath saved many thousand pounds in the Companies Purse.

It was by my means and negotiation, that the Companies estate was discharg'd from a Fine laid upon it in *Aleppo* of 10000 *l.* It was by Gods blessing upon my endeavours, that (without expence to the Company, the *Grand Seignior* was pacify'd touching that great affront put upon him by *Blake* in battering his Castles, and sinking eight of his Ships in *Farine* (a Harbor near *Tunis*) for which otherwise, he would, no doubt, have seized on the estate in the Countrey, as formerly upon less provocation he hath done, and as the Company then feared, could not be prevented. It was by my industry, and with much labour and patience, that I wrought out by degrees, and obtain'd for them that advantageous Privilege whereof the Merchants of no Nation but ours have the benefit at this day; viz, That no *English* man shall be condemned upon any pretence of debt laid upon him by the testimony either of *Turks*, *Jews*, or *Christians*, but what he had himself acknowledg'd before a *Cadde*, or Judge, in writing. By vertue of this Privilege I defended the Companies estates against all false pretences or Avaneas, and especially at *Smyrna*, against the pretence of 75000 *l.* sterling, demanded of them by one *Halillaga* a *Turk* of great power with the *Vizier*, because he was, with his treasure, together with 120 of the *Grand Seignior's* Subjects, delivered up to the *Venitians* by a Commander of one of our Ships. And in another case I satisfied the *Grand Seignior's* demand of above twenty thousand pounds more, with a few rotten and decayed Goods, and less then 4000 *l.* in money, for certain provisions of his (which one *Ell*, another *English* Commander, ran away with from *Alexandria* to *Legorn*.) Moreover, by timely finding out and preventing a false pretence made by the Customer of *Aleppo* to the *Bassa*, and by him recommended to the *Vizier* (who had allow'd of it) I saved the Factory there from an intended seizure upon all their estates, under pretence of arrears of Customes (many years due) for Silk & money.

Unto which I may justly add, as not the least of those Services I did the Company in the time of my Negotiation (which with the rest, they have wholly forgot) that I reduced the annual expences of the Port of *Constantinople* from 25. and 30000. Dollers (which it was at before my time) to 20000. Dollers *per annum* onely; which of it self may sufficiently answer those vast and unjust pretences they make

make upon me; for, if their expences in the general have (by my frugality for them) been made less by many thousands of Pounds, then what they were before my time; how is it possible, or from whence can it arise, that I should wrong them in any part of their Estate? Moreover, had I really done them any kind of injury, how untruly did their own mouths assure his Sacred Majesty of my honest and just dealings with them, when they for that Cause so earnestly petitioned Him for my longer stay in *Turkie*. Yet, what honestly so upright, or reputation so cleer, that may not be abused by such, as neither regard their words, examine their Consciences, nor value their expences, which they impose on every trading Member of their Company, how averse soever he be to their proceedings.

What I did in right of the Kings Majesty, by whose onely Commission, and in whose Name, I resided there (without accepting any Commission or Authority from any of those usurping Powers then in *England*) and how farr I insisted to support his Majesties Honour and Interest in *Turkie*, during my Negotiation, I shall not reckon among my Services done to the Company, being lead to those performances by the more powerfull obligation of my duty, and allegiance, and not from any other respects whatsoever, which were but secundary, and subservient; neither was it then looked upon by them, as any service at all (but rather the contrary) when, with the great expence of my private Estate and Purse, I prevailed so farr with some of the Ministers of those usurping Powers, as to prevent the sending of two or three persons to *Constantinople* with *Oliver's* Commission, whom the Company had chosen in their Courts to supplant me. Likewise I did oppose, and dismiss from *Constantinople*, one called Major *Lawrence*, whom they sent thither with the like Commission to supersede and make null that of his Majesties. And I have no slender grounds to believe, that the true, and secret cause of their so unjust prosecutions at this time, is, the revenge they meditate against me for those very actions.

But it sufficeth me, that as against all their malicious darts I have the witness of a good Conscience within me, so I hope I am able to make it appear to all the world without, that I have in all my proceedings demean'd my self carefully, honestly, and uprightly towards them, and not onely so, but, in some sort, have superarrogated, by augmenting their Privileges, preserving their Estates, and Persons, from many threatening dangers, and have saved and procured

cured them, through my care and pains, many hundred thousand Dollers in their Purfes, having, in the mean time, worn out and consumed the best part of my time and strength, without any advantage to my self or family.

To sum up all, I found at my arrival, that the swelling Torrent of *Turkish* Justice had, in a manner, drowned all their Interest of Trade and Commerce there; to reduce which, and to confine it within its proper Channel, cost me neer seven years perpetual labour and pains, with the expence of many thousand pounds extraordinary out of mine own Purse (of which I never placed one penny to their Accompt) and having by this means fortified the banks, and so kept them, for the space of seven years more from any such like inundation, the Channel of their Privileges is now worn so deep, and runs so cleer, that it is a thing almost impossible, the like should ever break out again.

After all which, to be branded by them with the odious Character of a Trust-breaker, and Confederate against them; to be unjustly charged with conversion of their Treasure to my private and extravagant expences, and to be violently prosecuted as their Debtor, at the same time, when, upon a just and equal accompt, they owe me (beside what before mention'd) above a thousand pounds for so much paid me short of their agreement with me in the weight and value of their Dollers; and the result of all, to be the murdering of my Name and Reputation, thereby to render me contemptible, and incapable of all future Trust and Employment; I appeal to all the World, who have the least sense of Honour, and Justice in them, whether these are not injuries above all possibility of satisfaction? and whether, by so ignominious an ingratitude, they do not loudly tell the World, what recompence all those persons, who shall hereafter receive the honour to be employ'd by his Majesty in the same Negotiation, must expect at their hands, for all the Services they can, or shall endeavour to do them?

F I N I S.

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